

REMARKS

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The examiner asserts that Claims 15-26 lack clear antecedent basis in the specification.

The examiner asserts that Claim 15 lacks clear antecedent basis because the phrases “is always” and “that is soaked in....water,” are not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the art that the inventor had possession of the claimed invention. Applicant disagrees and brings to the attention of the examiner pg. 11 ll. 7-9. This passage discloses, *inter alia*, that “the first chamber 11 and the second chamber 12 **are always filled with water** by having raw water or water for level adjustment respectively introduced into them.” Thus, the claim limitations are fully supported by the specification as originally filed.

The examiner further asserts that Claim 18 lacks clear antecedent basis in that a “multangular” separating wall is not disclosed. Applicant has amended claim 18 to correct a typographical error. “Multi-angular” means having more than one angle. Figures 6-18 as originally filed disclose a separating wall having more than one angle. Thus, this claim limitation is fully supported by the specification as filed. Withdrawal of the §112 rejections is requested.

Lastly, under § 112, the examiner asserts that Claim 15 is incomplete because the limitations recited in Claims 16-18 are essential. Applicant does not understand the basis for the examiner's rejection. The applicant has disclosed many embodiments in the present application, some of which do not require the limitations recited in Claims 16-18. For example, the embodiments disclosed in Figures 6-18 do not need the limitations recited in Claims 16-18.

The applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the § 112 rejection to amended and original Claims 15-26.

Claim 22 is objected under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of Claim 21. Claim 21 has been amended to correct an omission that gives Claims 21 and 22 different scopes. Claim 21 now recites the location of where the floatation bag is fitted. Withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The examiner asserts that Claims 15-17, 20, and 24-26 are obvious over the single piece of art, DE 19512315 "Schwetje."

Specifically, the examiner asserts that Schwetje discloses all of the claim limitations in Claim 15 except that Schwetje does not disclose an airtight tank, which the examiner claims would be obvious to one skilled in the art in order to prevent oxidation of the water. The examiner has provided no basis for the reason of why it is desirable to prevent oxidation of the water.

Schwetje is directed to a holding tank for a vehicle and discloses “the problem to be solved by the presently claimed invention consists in *reduction of the container volume* requiring that waste water be disposed of prematurely.” In other words, Schwetje is directed to the problem of minimizing the size of a holding tank, and does so by directing fresh water that is used back to the holding tank as drain water. Thus in Schwetje, the amount of drain water is a direct function of the amount of fresh water that is used and thus the separating wall does not control the amount of fresh water. Moreover, the examiner has not provided any justification for modifying the disclosure of Schwetje directed to a vehicle holding tank to make obvious the disclosure of applicants waste water treatment system. Clearly, the recited limitation that the separating wall controls the amount of raw water is not disclosed nor obvious over Schwetje.

Applicant respectfully requests allowance of Claim 15. Claims 16-26, due to their dependency, should also be allowed irrespective of the additional patentable features recited respectively therein

The allowance of Claims 15-26 is accordingly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

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